



**Date:** March 17, 2006  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager  
**From:** Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** City Report For Week Ending March 17, 2006

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This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending March 17. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

**MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

**Library Services**

**Long Beach Reads One Book: March 12 - March 18**

Long Beach residents continued to participate in a variety of Long Beach Reads One Book 2006 activities this week. *My California: Journeys of Great Writers*, a compilation of 27 original essays by California authors, is the basis for numerous discussions and theme-oriented events throughout the city. At one event on March 12, more than 80 youth participated in skate ramps and rails along with tabletop games provided by the Parks, Recreation and Marine's Skate Park on Wheels program. For more information, please visit [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov).

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

An estimated 2,500 people participated in the Smithsonian Week 2006 event *CarARTS* on March 11.

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

On February 15, a Long Beach delegation consisting of City officials and members of the Youth and Children Commission attended the California After School Summit at the Sacramento Convention Center to learn about Proposition 49, which provides funding for after school programming. This group joined representatives from the Long Beach Unified School District and other community-based agencies in the Long Beach After School Advocacy Partnership.

**Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

After a rigorous recruitment, forty-six participants were selected for the Neighborhood Leadership Program (NLP) 2006 Class. The class reflects the diversity of the community. It includes a husband and wife; two second-generation participants, and for the first time in its history, a third generation participant; a participant whose daughter graduated; and a teen participant whose sister graduated. The new class will begin on March 30, and will end with graduation on August 12. For more information about the Neighborhood Leadership Program, please call 570.1010.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

### **City Manager**

*Long Beach Cares: Long Beach, CA Helping Long Beach, MS* is partnering with the American Marketing Association Chapter at CSULB to raise funds for the second wave of Hurricane Katrina relief. A Hurricane Katrina Relief Benefit Concert, featuring pro bono performances by a CSULB jazz ensemble and two local blues bands, The Jeff Jensen Band and Johnny the Bossman, will be held tonight, **March 17**, 7:00 p.m. at the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center. For information, visit [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov).

### **Health and Human Services**

The third annual Gay Men's Health Summit will be held on **Saturday, March 18**, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Long Beach City College Liberal Arts Campus, 4901 E. Carson Street. The event, conducted in collaboration with Being Alive Long Beach and LGBT Resource Center (CSULB), will provide interactive workshops about sexual and general health, as well as free HIV and STD testing services. For more information, call 570.4331.

A community forum on crystal methamphetamine use in Long Beach will be held on **Wednesday, March 22**, 5:00-8:00 pm, at the St. Mary Medical Center Health Enhancement Center. The community forum will provide a special emphasis on the impact of crystal methamphetamine on the gay community and its connection to HIV transmission. The St. Mary Medical Center CARE (Comprehensive AIDS Research and Education) Program, in collaboration with the Health Department and several community-based organizations, is hosting the event. For more information, please call 624.4936.

A *Kindergarten Festival* to provide parents with information on the importance of early childhood education and readiness, and assist them in the kindergarten registration process will be held on **March 18**. The Festivals will be held at the following schools:

9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Webster Elementary School, 1755 W. 32nd Street

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Elementary School, 1574 Linden Avenue

The festival is co-sponsored by the Long Beach Unified School District. For more information call 925.2285, ext. 122.

*Healthy Active Long Beach* will be celebrating National Nutrition Month with a healthy cooking demonstration at the Long Beach Downtown Farmers' Market on **March 31** from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

### **Community Development, Economic Development Bureau**

Residents are encouraged to attend one of a series of Community Forums to comment on the operations of the new Pine Avenue Entertainment District Pilot Program, which standardizes entertainment permits, including closing hours and noise and security requirements, for entertainment businesses in the Downtown area. The first meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 29**, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, 333 W. Ocean Boulevard.

## **AWARDS**

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

El Dorado Nature Center staff received the Department of the Interior's *Take Pride in America* award at the March 16, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. This national award was presented for staff's work in the stewardship of the City's aquatic resources.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **Community Development and Police**

On March 9, 32 members of the Community Partners Council attended a presentation on the importance of the four Community Police Centers' (CPCs) role in providing neighborhood safety. The presentation outlined various educational workshops provided at the CPCs and the translation services that are available to residents who are reporting minor crimes. The presentation also included a safety presentation by one of the four retired police officers who work at the CPCs. The CPCs exists through a partnership with the Department of Community Development Neighborhood Services Bureau, the Long Beach Police Department and resident volunteers.

### **Police**

Citywide, police officers responded to 628 priority one, 1,340 priority two and 1,123 priority three calls for service, for a total of 3,091.

Vice Detectives, in conjunction with ABC and Youth Services, conducted a *Shoulder Tap Operation*. Undercover officers focused enforcement on adults who illegally buy alcohol for minors. The undercover operation resulted in four citations.

In response to ongoing community concerns and complaints, West Division Community Policing assisted by SWAT, Narcotics, Gangs, and East Division Community Policing Teams, conducted a search warrant in the 1800 block of Gardenia. The operation resulted in the recovery of multiple weapons, including assault rifles, shotgun and handguns. Officers also recovered illegal drugs and arrested gang members.

### **Fire, Community Services Division**

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes for the staff of Long Beach Community College and the City's Parks, Recreation and Marine Department have been formed. These classes represent the sixth 20-hour CERT course taught by the Fire Department since January. For more information on CERT training for your neighborhood or business, please call 570-LBFD.

## **NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

On March 11, El Dorado Nature Center co-hosted, with Long Beach Storytellers, a concert celebrating Women's History month. Seven talented storytellers entertained more than 60 people.

### **NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, and Public Works**

Tree planting has been completed on the west and north slopes at Ed "Pops" Davenport Park, 55th Way near Paramount Blvd. Irrigation and lighting are being installed and work on the restrooms continues.

Structural steel beams are being set at the front entry of the new community center in Admiral Kidd Park.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Community Development**

The Long Beach Business Expansion and Retention Network, a partnership of the Workforce Development Bureau, the Economic Development Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, Long Beach City College and others, is finalizing its business retention survey for dissemination to Long Beach businesses along with data analysis from the State's Labor Market Information Division. Results of the survey and analysis will be used in profiling and outreaching to specific Long Beach businesses and sectors, which without comprehensive resources and intervention, could face downsizing or closure.

#### **Community Development, Economic Development Bureau**

A \$40,000 business loan has been issued to Senior Solutions Team, Inc., a company started in 2005 to assist the growing number of seniors seeking quality medical, financial and housing assistance. The loan, provided by the Bureau's Long Beach Business Loan Program, will allow the geriatric care management services company to expand its staff and operations.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine**

Belmont Plaza Pool, in collaboration with Millikan High School, hosted preliminary swim meets for the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Boys Swim Relays on March 14 and 16. More than 420 swimmers and spectators attended this event.

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

CBS Productions, Inc., with a cast and crew of 145, filmed a TV show "CSI: Miami" at Shoreline Village on March 14.

### **OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

#### **Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau**

From March 5 through March 11, staff completed a total of 3,311 service calls. This total included 1,192 and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 747 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,100 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 272 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 545 emergency phone calls that resulted in 167 emergency orders being sent out.

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**OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE (continued)**

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau**

The medians on Santa Fe Ave., between Wardlow Rd. and Pacific Coast Hwy., are being filled with dirt for future planting. Water meters and backflow preventers have been installed in the medians on Atlantic Ave. between Artesia Blvd. and 68th St.; on Cherry Ave. between Artesia Blvd. and 70th St.; and on Artesia Blvd. between Obispo Ave. and Downey Ave.

**CONSTRUCTION REPORT**

**Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation**

Contact: 570.2060

Alleys west of Oregon and Patterson

Estimated completion: March

Orange Ave. Between Lewis and Cherry Ave.

Estimated completion: April

Clair Del Ave. East of Cherry Ave. and South of Del Amo Blvd.

Estimated completion: May

**Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Regulator Station Rebuild**

Contact: 570.2060

Colorado St. and Nieto Ave.

Estimated Completion: April

**Public Works, Street Improvements**

Contact: 570.5160

Anaheim Street

Obispo to Ximeno

10th St.

Orange Ave. to Cherry Ave.

Estimated Completion: March

Atlantic Ave.

North of Artesia Blvd. to a point North of 68th St.

Cherry Ave.

North of Artesia Blvd. to 70th St.

Artesia Blvd.

East of Obispo Ave. to Downey Ave.

Estimated Completion: March

Cherry Ave.

Spring St. to Bixby Rd.

Estimated completion: May

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager  
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